GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:237
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2016
Ban on Generic Pesticides
Gutha Shri Sukender Reddy

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating on banning/phasing out some of the popular and widely used generic pesticides in the next three years, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) the salient features of the recommendations made by Dr. Anupam Verma Expert Committee in this regard;

(c) whether the Pesticides Manufacturers and Formulators Association of India has approached the Government for review of the decision to ban these generic pesticides in the interest of the farmers, welfare; and

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
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(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 237 DUE FOR REPLY ON 10TH MAY, 2016.

(a) & (b): The Government registers pesticides after a detailed evaluation of efficacy of the product and safety to human, animal and environmental health. Technical reviews are carried out from time to time to assess the safety of pesticides.

The Government constituted an expert committee under Dr. Anupam Verma, Former Professor, Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI), to carry out technical review of 66 pesticides that are banned, restricted, withdrawn in one or more countries but continued to be registered in India (Annexure-I). The Expert Committee has recently submitted a report, which inter alia, recommends 13 pesticides to be banned, 27 pesticides to be reviewed in 2018 after completion of certain technical studies and 6 pesticides to be phased out by 2020. The Committee further recommended continuation of ban on 1 pesticide and did not offer any assessment of a pesticide which is currently sub judice. The Verma Committee recommended continued use of 18 pesticides. The Complete list is at Annexure-II.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. The Anupam Verma Committee Report is under consideration in the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare.